

8 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARS Installation [REDACTED]

1. This staff was briefed by OC-E, 25 February 1977, concerning the installation of [REDACTED] Those present were:

[REDACTED]

2. Initially ARS will be installed/operated as a back-up for the Max system. The exact date of installation is still not firm. The majority of the briefing did not address this aspect; rather, additional long range plans for the ARS/Max equipments.

3. Future goals are to utilize ARS as a front end processor for Max. The proposed plan also affects Sky-Link field stations. With the implementation of the plan, the Sky-Link field station would be configured as follows:

A. The main equipment would be a mixer, the form not presently known. The function of the mixer is to determine what mode to operate in (i.e. terminal of the Star network, VM terminal, or Primary Commo terminal). The intent is to use one device, with a software package to determine the mode of operation, rather than an individual terminal for each function.

B. The mixer would then interface with a crypto device; which would interface with the Sky-Link equipment.

4. The base station would be configured as follows:

A. An entry device which interfaces with the crypto device.

B. The crypto device would interface with ARS. ARS will determine what type of data it is handling. Narrative traffic would be output to Max or ARS would determine if the Star or VM mode was being used and output to the appropriate channel.

5. Subsequent to these goals, the plan is to reprogram a portion of Max to make it a smart switch (Max'). The function of Max' would be to format narrative traffic, if necessary, for distribution; thereby,

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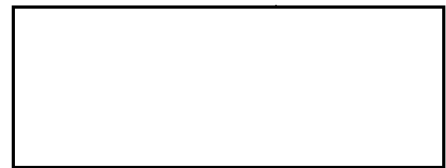
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eliminating the need for field stations to format their narrative traffic. Stations that do not have Sky-Link equipment, would prepare traffic as normal and Max would handle their traffic.

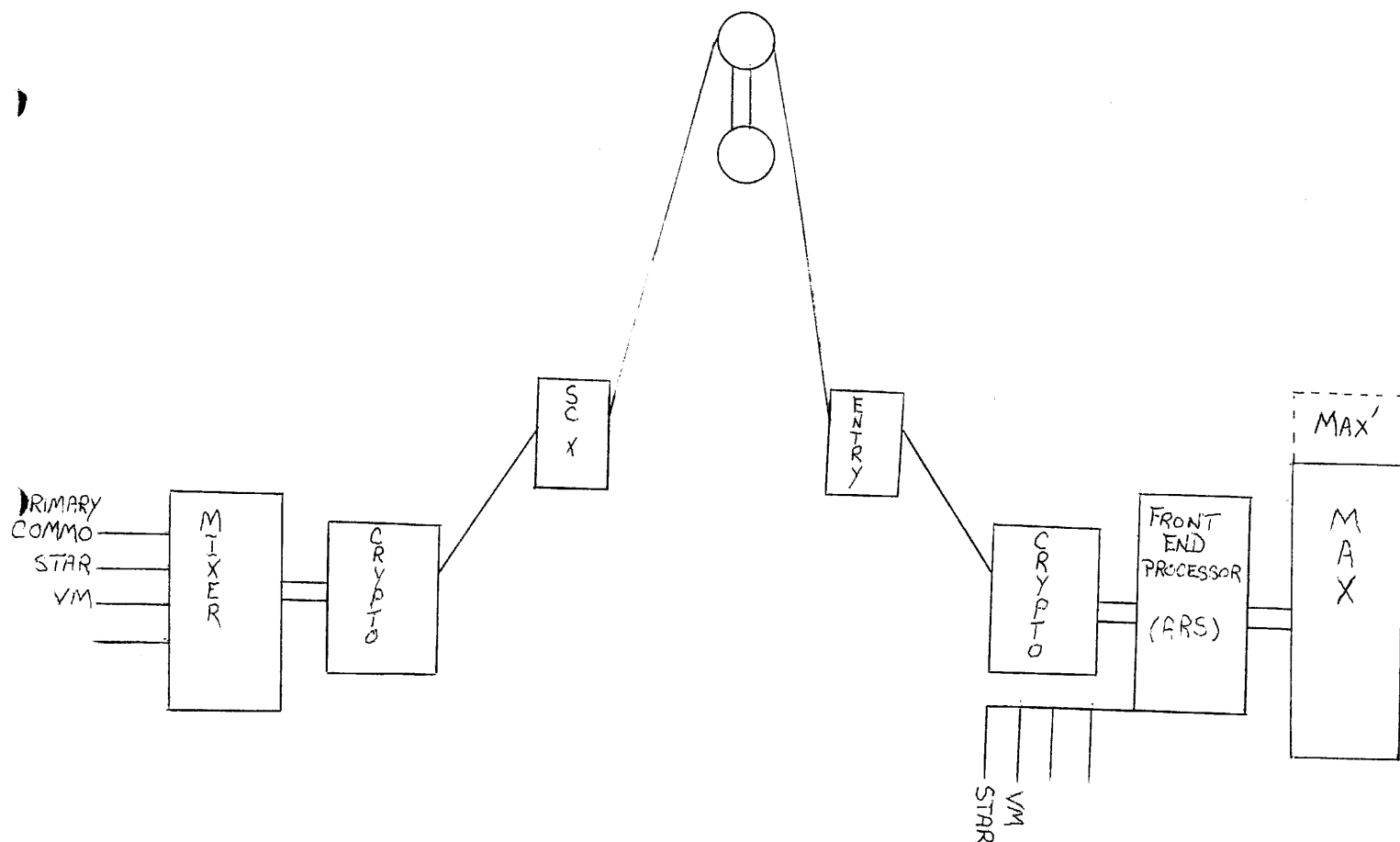
6. Attached is a block diagram of the proposed system.

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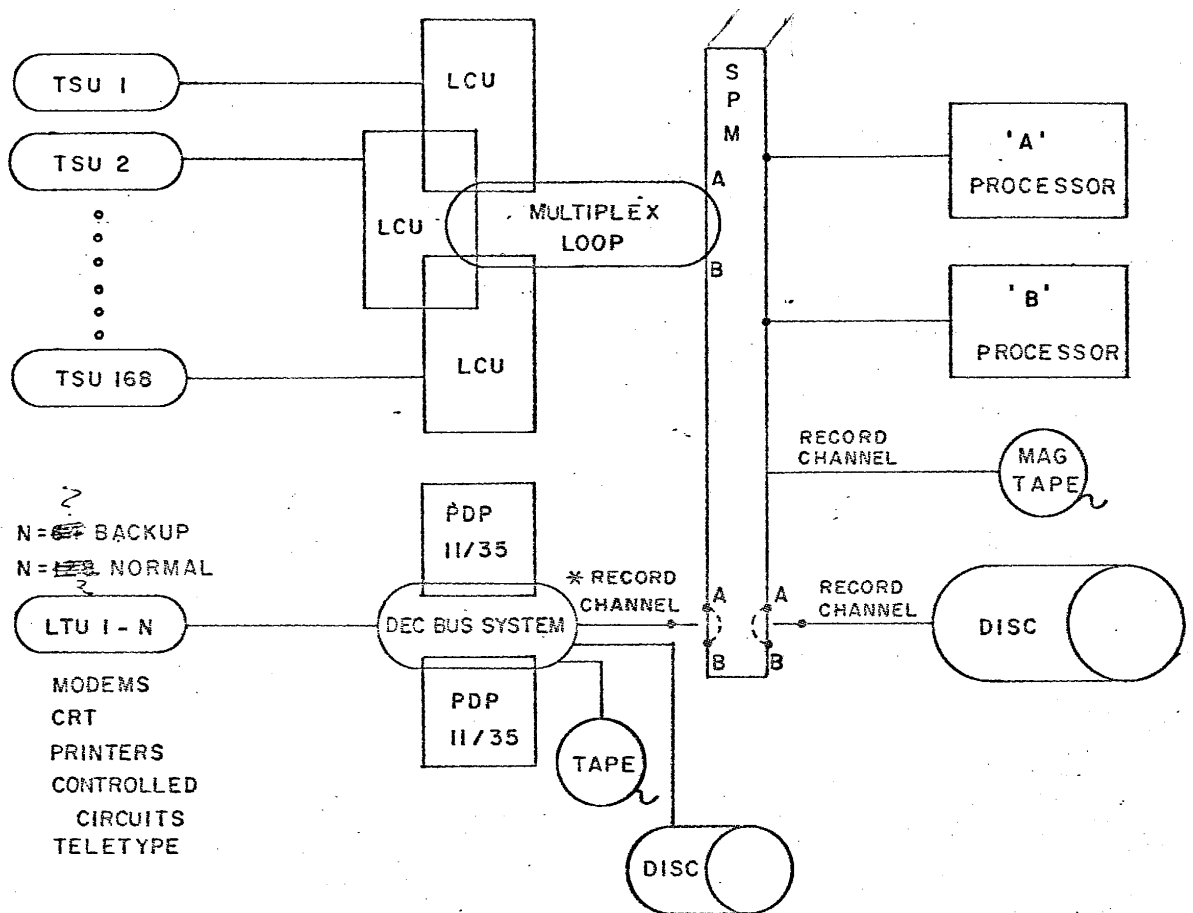
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Approved For Release 2002/06/19 : CIA-RDP88-00893R000200080035-7



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*NOT USED IN ARS BACKUP MODE.